0068-0405-0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

RE APPLICATION OF:

YASUYOSHI SAITO

: EXAMINER: KOSLOW, C.

SERIAL NO: 09/511,316

FILED: FEBRUARY 23, 2000

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1755

FOR: ALKALI METAL-CONTAINING

NIOBATE-BASED PIEZOELECTRIC MATERIAL COMPOSITION AND A METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE

SAME

RECEIVED

13/01/29/01

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action of September 18, 2001, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 13, 14, 19-21 and 26-28.

Please amend Claims 15-17, 22, 23 and 25 as in the attached marked-up copy to read as follows.

15. (Twice Amended) An alkali-metal containing niobate-based piezoelectric sintering material composition comprising a solid solution represented by a composition formula $\text{Li}_x(K_{1-x}Na_y)_{1-x}(Nb_{1-z}Ta_z)O_3$, wherein x = 0.001 to 0.2, y = 0 to 0.8, z = 0 to 0.4, and at least one additive selected from the group consisting of Cu, Li and Ta.

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